

MINUTES OF A WORK SESSION
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF CLARKSTON, GEORGIA
HELD IN-PERSON AND BY TELECONFERENCE, ZOOM AUDIO/VIDEO
IN SAID CITY ON TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023

On the 25th day of April 2023, at 7:00 p.m., the City Council of Clarkston, Georgia met in a Work Session in-person and by teleconference, Zoom Audio/Video in said City. Mayor Beverly Burks called the meeting to order. The following members of the City Council were present: Vice Mayor Debra Johnson; Councilmembers Awet Eyasu; Jamie Carroll; Laura Hopkins; Yterenickia Bell, and Susan Hood. Absent: None. The following City staff were present: Shawanna Qawiy (City Manager); Dan Defnall (Finance Director); Christine Hudson (Police Chief); Rodney Beck (Public Works Director); Dorothy Jackson (Chief Court Clerk); Tomika R. Mitchell (City Clerk); and Stephen Quinn (City Attorney).

NOTE: Items appearing in these minutes are in the order they were discussed, not necessarily in the order they appeared on the agenda.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

All members of the City Council were present.

Vice Mayor Johnson made a motion to defer Item 4A to May 2nd Council Meeting; move Item 5A to the May 30th Work Session with a Public Hearing for June 6th; a Public Community Meeting scheduled for May 23rd at 6:00pm; and move Item 6B to the end of the agenda. Councilmember Bell duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the meeting adjourned (6-0).

3. WORK SESSION- RESIDENT COMMENT POLICY

Mayor Burks read the Resident Comment Policy.

4. PRESENTATION/ ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Presentation from the University of Georgia School of Public and International Affairs:
GMA Practicum Project: Clarkston Community Outreach.

City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated the University of Georgia, Department of Public Administration and Policy/School of Public and International Affairs has agreed to participate in the Georgia Municipal Association Local Government Practicum program to provide recommendations for inclusive outreach strategies for more public feedback and community communication.

To allow the University of Georgia, Department of Public Administration and Policy/School of Public and International Affairs students to present their findings related to an inclusive community outreach plan for the City of Clarkston.

The City of Clarkston applied for the Georgia Municipal Association Local Government Practicum program to allow students to develop an inclusive community outreach plan. The students were asked to research, analyze, and provide recommendations on how to be more inclusive in outreach strategies to allow for more public feedback and community communication.

The city is seeking to determine alternative methods that will include feedback from our diverse residents and how the government works.

This item will be placed on the next City Council agenda.

B. Employee Recognitions: Clarkston Police Department Sergeant R. Koirala, Officer R. Dillard, Officer S. Smith, and Hakeem Ayuba in the Public Works Department.

City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy recognized the hard work and dedication of city employees in the police and public works departments who have chosen to go above and beyond the call of duty and regular working hours to make the City of Clarkston great.

It is important to keep our employees motivated and encouraged to continue to be the best that they can be. It is also important to provide support and guidance by offering opportunities for (public) recognition that will showcase their outstanding performances, dedication, and service to the City of Clarkston.

Therefore, the Administration along with the support of the respective departments and the Mayor and City Council would like to recognize the selfless work of Sergeant R. Koirala, Officer R. Dillard and Officer S. Smith for the kindness and sensitivity they bestowed upon a resident. Also, to Hakeem Ayuba who had the tenacity to go above and beyond to keep the city looking its best.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. To discuss amending the Clarkston Zoning Ordinance and Maps.

City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated at the scheduled City Council meeting on April 4, 2023, the City Council voted to defer the council vote on amending the Clarkston Zoning Ordinance and maps until the May 2, 2023 Regular City Council meeting.

The zoning ordinance establishes zoning districts that specify permitted uses, building standards and regulations that apply to different types of properties. Amendments to the zoning ordinance and maps are to increase the ease, impact, purpose, and intent of the local laws and regulate land use and development within the city. The impact of the amendments will include the nature and scope of the changes and the views and concerns of the community.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

This item will be placed on the May 30th Work Session agenda for further discussion.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. To discuss amending the zoning map to rezone the properties located at 572 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 007), 582 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 002), 586 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 006), 590 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 005), 596 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 004), 600 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 009), 606 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 008) and 616 Woodland Avenue (18 047 34 001) Scottdale, GA 30079 (within the City of Clarkston) from NR-CD Neighborhood Residential Community Development District to TC Town Center.

City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated this item was to discuss amending the zoning map to rezone an assemblage of parcels on Woodland Avenue from NR-CD-Neighborhood Residential Community Development to TC Town Center. The Mayor and City Council will consider amending the zoning map to rezone the properties located at 572 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 007), 582 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 002), 586 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 006), 590 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 005), 596 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 004), 600 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 009), 606 Woodland Avenue (18 047 32 008) and 616 Woodland Avenue (18 047 34 001) Scottdale, GA 30079 (within the City of Clarkston) from NR-CD Neighborhood Residential Community Development District to TC Town Center.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Public comments were made by the following citizens: Ira Katz, Mike Brabson, Amy Medford, Ms. Amina, Chris Busing, and Ms. Georgette.

This item will be placed on the next City Council Agenda.

- B. To discuss approving a contract with Brittany Trammell for Solicitor for the City of Clarkston.

This item was moved to the end of the agenda.

- C. To discuss approving a renewed contract with Sears Pool Management Consultants, Incorporated for \$61,200.

City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated this item was to renew a contract from Sears Pool Management Consultants, Incorporated for \$61,200. The Sears Pool Management Consultants, Inc. will service the Milam Park pool in operation and open season pool maintenance services for the Clarkston Community. The pool shall open for the season on May 25, 2023, and will close on September 4, 2023.

Mr. Sears from Sears Pool Management Consultants, Inc. gave a brief overview of the company and contact with the city.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Amy Medford and Ms. Amina presented comments on this item.

This item will be placed on the next City Council Agenda.

D. To discuss adopting a Civility Resolution for the City of Clarkston.

City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated this item was to adopt a resolution pledging to practice and promote civility in the City of Clarkston. The Civility Pledge from GMA states:

The way we govern ourselves is often as important as the positions we take. Our collective decisions will be better when differing views have had the opportunity to be fully vetted and considered. All people have the right to be treated with respect, courtesy, and openness. We value all input. We commit to conduct ourselves at all times with civility and courtesy to each other. – Civility Pledge

The Council briefly discussed this item.

This item will be placed on the next City Council Consent Agenda.

E. To discuss codifying the public comment process for City Council Work Session and City Council Regular City Council meetings.

Mayor Burks stated this item came about when the Council transitioned back to in public/person meeting.

Vice Mayor Johnson presided over the meeting.

Mayor Burks presented a draft of amendments for in-person and zoom public comments.

City Attorney Stephen Quinn gave a brief overview of the policy with the idea to manage expectations and have a predictable time frame for public comments.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

Chris Busing, Ms. Amina, and Amy Medford commented on this item.

Mr. Quinn will make revisions to the policy and email it to the Mayor and Council for review.

This item will be placed on the next City Council Agenda.

Mayor Burks presided over the meeting.

F. To discuss a resolution to deny the claim asserted by claimant Larry McClam.

City Attorney Stephen Quinn gave a brief overview of this item stating the city's insurer requested the city to take formal action when the city receives an Ante Litem Notice for a demand claim, assuming the city does not want to pay.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

This item will be placed on the next City Council Consent Agenda.

G. To discuss amending the adopted 2023 City Council Meeting Schedule to change the June 27, 2023, City Council Work Session meeting to June 29, 2023.

The City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated this item is to discuss amending and approving to change the June 27, 2023, City Council Work Session meeting to June 29, 2023. The adopted change will allow the Mayor and City Council to attend the Georgia Municipal Association 2023 Annual Convention from June 23-27, 2023.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

This item will be placed on the next City Council Consent Agenda.

H. To discuss adopting a resolution for Georgia Cities Week for the City of Clarkston.

City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated we are proud of the city and want to showcase the services and programs the city provides. During cities week, there will be a variety of events and activities scheduled for the city. The event schedule is attached. The events are a great opportunity to connect with citizens, learn about new developments and continue to shape the future of the city. Georgia Cities Week is April 23rd-29th. Cities Week is an annual event that celebrates the importance of cities. Ms. Qawiy provided the schedule of events for Georgia Cities Week.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

This item will be placed on the next City Council Consent Agenda.

The next item was moved from the beginning of the meeting agenda to the end of the meeting.

B. To discuss approving a contract with Brittany Trammell for Solicitor for the City of Clarkston.

City Manager, Shawanna Qawiy stated this item was to review and discuss a resolution authorizing the appointment of Brittany N. Trammell as the Solicitor. The Solicitor will provide prosecuting attorney services to the City of Clarkston Municipal Court.

Ms. Trammell gave a brief introduction of herself.

The Council briefly discussed this item.

This item will be placed on the next City Council Consent Agenda.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

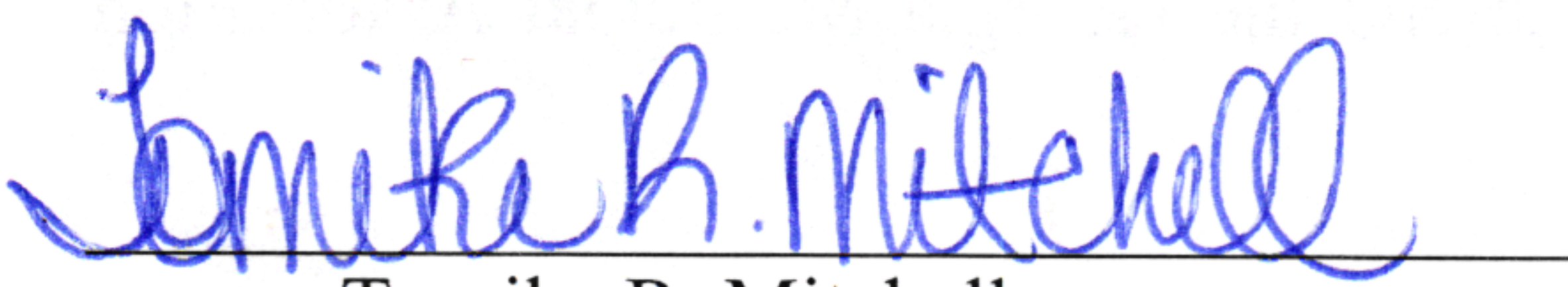
The Council did not enter Executive Session.

8. ADJOURNMENT

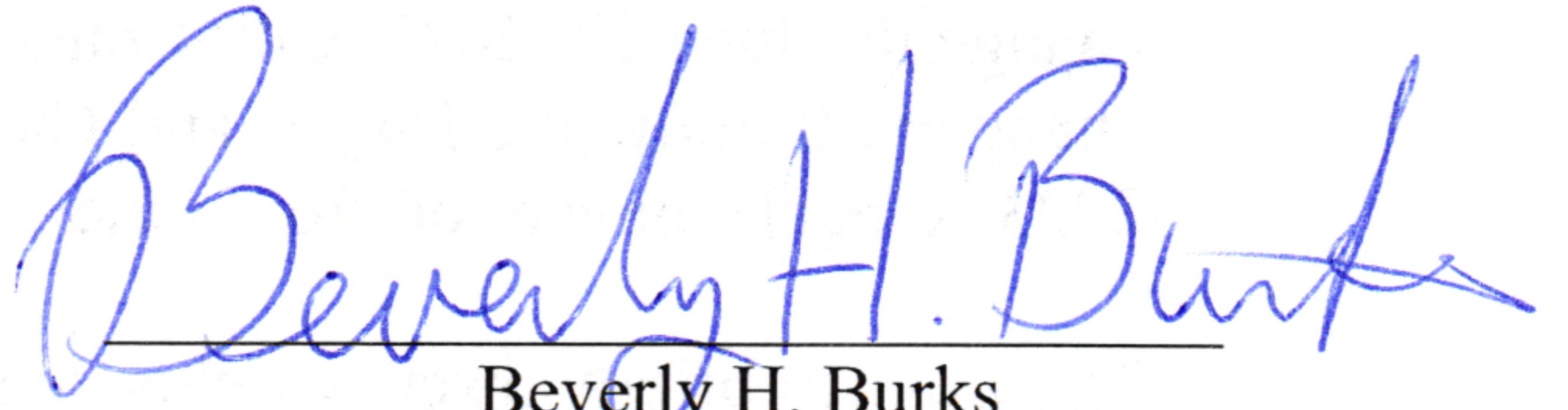
Councilmember Eyasu made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Hood duly seconded the motion. Mayor Burks called for the vote and declared the meeting adjourned (6-0).

The meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:



Tomika R. Mitchell
City Clerk



Beverly H. Burks
Mayor